

- B1 sub C1
1. (Twice Amended) A method for separating nucleic acid from a test sample comprising:
- a) contacting a test sample with a metal oxide support material and a binding buffer such that the nucleic acid bonds with the metal oxide support material, wherein the binding buffer comprises a chaotropic agent and a detergent;
  - b) separating the complexes from the test sample; and
  - c) eluting the nucleic acid from the metal oxide support material, thereby separating the nucleic acid from the test sample.

- B2 sub C2
11. (Twice Amended) A kit for separating nucleic acid from a test sample comprising:
- a) metal oxide particles comprising metal oxide, wherein when the metal oxide particles are contacted with nucleic acids, the nucleic acid bonds with the metal oxide;
  - b) a binding buffer comprising
    - (i) a chaotropic reagent, and
    - (ii) a detergent; and
  - c) an elution buffer comprising water.

#### REMARKS

##### *Invitation For Telephonic Examiner Interview*

Applicant's undersigned representative believes that a telephonic interview could substantially assist the Examiner in evaluating the relationship of the claimed invention to the prior art, and also expedite the prosecution of the subject application. Accordingly, applicant wishes to invite the Examiner to telephonically discuss the subject application with applicant's undersigned representative. Of course, applicant recognizes that, at this